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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Argentina, Benin, Cameroon, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Lesotho, Morocco, Mozambique, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia and Zaire: draft resolution

World Conference on Public Administration and Development

The General Assembly,

Considering that the political and economic upheavals of recent years place new responsibilities on public administrations, especially to develop basic infrastructural facilities, promote social development, combat socio-economic disparities, and prepare appropriate conditions by expanding the private sector,

Recognizing the need to modernize public administrative structures in order to ensure a civil service that is close to the citizens and to provide quality services,

Considering that any sustainable economic and social development must be backed by an efficient, competent, and responsible administration,

Considering also that investment in human resources constitutes the essential basis for sustainable development and a principal factor for progress and welfare,

Considering further that initiatives to reform their public administrations taken by the developing countries in the context of structural adjustment programmes have not always been based on a policy conceived and defined for the long term,

Realizing that it is necessary for countries to initiate concrete policies for the civil service in order to meet the challenges posed by sustainable development at the national level,

Recognizing the crucial importance of a proper balance and a complementarity between the public and private sectors,

Considering finally that a strategy should be defined at the international level with regard to the role of public administrations in development,

1. Registers its satisfaction at the Tangier Declaration, 1/ adopted by the Pan-African Conference of Ministers of the Civil Service held in Morocco on 20 and 21 June 1994;

2. Decides to convene in 1997 a World Conference on Administration and Development for one week and at the highest possible level;

3. Decides also to establish a General Assembly Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Administration and Development, open to all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, and to authorize observers to participate in its work, in accordance with established practice;

4. Decides that the Preparatory Committee shall hold two sessions of one week each at United Nations Headquarters in New York in 1995 and 1996;

5. Decides also that the Preparatory Committee shall elect a chairman, three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report to the Preparatory Committee giving recommendations on measures to be taken as part of the preparations for the World Conference on Administration and Development, bearing in mind the provisions of this resolution;

7. Decides that the Preparatory Committee is to draw up the provisional agenda for the Conference and prepare draft decisions for submission to the Conference for consideration and adoption;

8. Invites all States to take an active part in the preparations for the Conference;

9. Requests interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to contribute, as appropriate, to the work of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference and to the work of the Conference;

10. Decides that the preparations for the Conference and the Conference itself shall be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations, without

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1/ A/49/495, annex.

prejudice to ongoing activities and without excluding the possibility of obtaining funds from extrabudgetary sources;

11. Requests the Secretary-General and the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee to make a progress report on the work of the Preparatory Committee to the General Assembly at its fiftieth and fifty-first sessions;

12. Decides to place on the provisional agenda of its fiftieth and fifty-first sessions an item entitled "World Conference on Public Administration and Development".